



McColl Superfund Site

Fullerton, California

July 1998

EPA ANNOUNCES INTENTION TO DELETE THE McCOLL SITE FROM THE NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST

Site Deletion Process through Community Participation – “The Steps for Deletion”

Now that the construction at the McColl Site is complete, and determined by EPA (with concurrence from DTSC) to be fully operational and functional, the deletion process for the McColl Site from the National Priority List (NPL) has begun. As part of this process, EPA has prepared a Notice of Intention to Delete (NOID) for publication in the Federal Register. The NOID contains general information about the site, EPA Regional staff and other contacts, and deletion criteria and procedures. The NOID will provide for a 30-day public comment period after which comments are addressed and made available to the community. Concurrent with the NOID publication in the Federal Register, a local NOID will be published in the Orange County Register and the Los Angeles Times Orange County Edition to announce EPA's intent to delete the site from the NPL and the 30-day public comment period. The local NOID will also provide an address and telephone number for the submission of comments, and identify the location of the local repository of site information.

National Priorities List (NPL) – What it Means

The McColl Site is currently listed on the NPL of the Superfund Program at EPA. The NPL is designed primarily for informational purposes and to assist EPA in the management of resources toward corrective action at a hazardous waste site. Now that the construction of the containment system is complete, EPA, with concurrence from the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), has begun the process of deleting the McColl Site from the NPL.

Regardless of whether a site is on the NPL or not, EPA has authority to do many different kinds of environmental work at hazardous waste sites. EPA can perform investigations, respond to environmental emergencies, and work with communities and companies to address any necessary corrective actions. In addition, EPA can evaluate the effectiveness of any remedy that is already in place without the site being listed on the NPL. Only when EPA must use money from the Superfund to construct a long-term remedy, such as a treatment plant, does the site need to be listed on the NPL. If there is no need for EPA to use money from the Superfund to construct a treatment plant, then there is no need to have the site designated as a “Superfund Site” on the NPL.

EPA will continue to oversee the long-term operation and maintenance at McColl regardless of whether it is listed on the NPL or not. The McColl site has a plan for the long-term operation and maintenance that includes routine inspections, equipment maintenance, responding to emergencies and regular monitoring. Each year the results of the operations will be reported to EPA. Every five years, an additional review will be performed.

McColl Site Background

The McColl Superfund Site is located on the southwest corner of the intersections of Rosecrans Avenue and Sunny Ridge Drive in Fullerton, California. During the 1940s and 1950s refining wastes from aviation fuel production were placed at the site in unlined waste pits. During the expansion of Orange County communities in the 1970s, homes were built adjacent to the area of the site containing waste pits. The waste material and the odors from the pits were unwelcome to neighbors, thus becoming the subject of numerous studies and discussions. Subsequently, the U.S. EPA selected remedies for the contamination of the McColl site that consisted of a containment system for the waste pits and a program of surface water management to protect the ground water in the area. These remedies are described in the Records of Decision of September 1995 and May 1996.

The construction of the containment system that began in the fall of 1996 is complete. The system consists of three major elements: (1) Around the pits are subsurface barrier walls and over the top of the pits is an impermeable cover; (2) Under the cover is a network of piping to collect the pit gases, which are then collected and treated in a carbon treatment plant; and (3) As part of the construction activities, the site has been restored as a portion of a golf course operated by the Los Coyotes Country Club through agreements among the McColl Site Group Oil Companies, McAuley LCX Corporation, which owns the Los Coyotes Country Club, and the U.S. EPA.